

VZCZCXRO7836

OO RUEHBC RUEHDE RUEHFL RUEHIHL RUEHKUK RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHROV RUEHSR

DE RUEHRO #0471 1061151

ZNY CCCCC ZZH

O 151151Z APR 08

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0149

INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

RUCNRAQ/IRAQ COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD IMMEDIATE 0349

RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0871

RUEHFL/AMCONSUL FLORENCE PRIORITY 3016

RUEHMIL/AMCONSUL MILAN PRIORITY 9358

RUEHNP/AMCONSUL NAPLES PRIORITY 3165

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 000471

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR S/I (DAVIS)

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/01/2018

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [IZ](#) [IR](#) [IT](#)

SUBJECT: ITALIANS SUPPORT EFFORTS FOR GREATER REGIONAL
ENGAGEMENT WITH IRAQ

REF: A) STATE 35471 B) RIES-ESCOBAR EMAIL APRIL 15

Classified By: A/Deputy Political Counselor Gabriel Escobar for reasons
1.4 (b) and (d)

(C) Poloffs delivered ref a points to Director of the Italian MFA Iraq Task Force Gianludovico De Martino on April 14. De Martino reiterated that Italy would remain engaged with the Iraqi Government through the Neighbors Process and IRFFI and would continue to press for a more functional ICI. He said Italy would not only press Iraq's neighbors to play a more constructive role politically, the GOI would like neighboring countries to contribute financially as well. De Martino noted that as existing donors scaled back assistance to Iraq, it will be important to find new sources of funding. Iraq's neighbors could become a potential new set of donors to the ICI and could be convinced that investing in Iraq would contribute to regional stability. De Martino said he would travel to Baghdad May 2-3 to participate in the IRFFI Executive Committee meeting and would discuss these issues with Embassy Baghdad officials (ref b).

SPOGLI